

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AND AGING SERVICES
(DAS) COMMISSION

MINUTES May 8, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME/ President Spears

President Janet Y. Spears called our hybrid meeting to order in City Hall room 416 and virtually and stated that the DAS Commission acknowledged they are using the unceded homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula.

The (DAS) Commission Secretary called the roll:

Present: Commissioners, Wanda Jung, Martha Knutzen, Vice President Nelson Lum, President Janet Y. Spears, and Linda Parker Pennington, Sascha Bittner and Barbara Sklar

Excused Absence:

DAS Executive Director Kelly Dearman was present.

Communications:

Commission Secretary Ravi Durbeej provided instructions for any members of the public that would like to submit a public comment to the DAS Commission.

Approval of Minutes:

No public comment.

A motion to approve the April 3, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes from
The motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT/ Kelly Dearman – Presented by Deputy Director Cindy Kauffman

Thanked the commission and talked on agenda items that were presented during the prior month on the budget and conferences attended.

On the state level was the C4A conference in San Jose and a good amount of DAS staff present. USAging did a presentation and DAS's own Tiffany Kearney presented. There were warnings on the upcoming state budgets, metaphor on stormy weather.

CDA is establishing guidelines for AAA's.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Commissioner Pennington asked about the budget pressure from the federal, state, and local level and answered that the federal money feels flat and at the local level at FY24 – 25 and are trying to find the level of the budget cuts that are being asked from the Mayor's Office.

President Spears asked about the fraud regulations if they are included in APS and yes they are.

DAS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH MAY 2024

- Director Dearman and the DAS Commission honored and thanked Andrew Croce for his dedication and passion to being a social worker and to the IHSS team.
- Andrew thanked the commission and everyone on his team for all of their hard work as well. And shouted out all the social workers in his unit and his wife who is here for all the motivation and support to move forward in his career.

ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT/Diane Lawrence

President Lawrence thanked the commission and spoke on the April 17th meeting that she was not in attendance but had Deputy Director Kauffman speak at the purpose of Site Visits and the importance of them. They will continue that discussion next week.

On Site Visits they are grateful for Tia Small for doing so much on the site visits and presented two site visits last month from Bernal Hill and the Excelsior.

One question from the meeting was how to get the word out that DAS and their services exist and that will be a continual concern.

CASE REPORT/ Judith Dancer

CASE Report presented by Judith Dancer announced they will be meeting in person starting September and they are happy to announce a film they produced that will be opening. "All the Lonely People" will be screened in May and will have a panel that President Spears will be on the panel.

We will be campaigning for the Dignity Fund allotment.

President Spears gave a comment on the movie and encouraged people to attend the free screening.

Commissioner Pennington asked if there is a way to participate remotely and there isn't.

Item 9 is GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT.

In person speaker spoke on the issues concerning change of San Francisco. We need to change to new surveillance laws, and this will be hard but attainable. Please read the email sent out.

A member of the public who has over 25 years of investigative crimes and is requesting the DOJ, HSA and other agencies over serious issues of 255 Kearney and 161 Powell where digital hacks have been common and serious concerns.

Item 10 OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

Item 11 NEW BUSINESS

ITEMS A IS AN INFORMATIONAL ONLY ITEMS AND REQUIRES A VOTE
BY THE COMMISSION

- A. Community Living Fund Six (6) Month Report July – December 2023 and Community Living Fund Annual Plan FY2024-25 – INFORMATION ONLY (Presented by Zhiqing Li and Melissa McGee)

Presenters Zhiqing Li and Melissa McGee spoke on the Community Living Fund Six (6) Month Report July – December 2023 and Community Living Fund Annual Plan FY2024-25 – INFORMATION ONLY

Commissioner Lum asked about eligibility and to be eligible for this program you do not already have to be a SF Health Plan member, just need to be in immediate risk.

Commissioner Jung asked about the topical outcomes and the transitions from Laguna Honda to the community and for their excellent work.

Commissioner Pennington thanked them and was happy hear there is an outreach coordinator

President Spears thanked them for the hard work needed to put this report together.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ITEMS B THROUGH J ARE ACTION ITEMS AND REQUIRES A VOTE BY
THE COMMISSION

- B. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with Project Open Hand for the provision of home delivered meals and nutrition assessments for adults with disabilities; during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, in the additional amount of \$101,938 plus a 10% contingency for a revised total amount not to exceed \$859,699. (Leah Walton will present the item)

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Jung.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- C. Requesting authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the provision of transportation services by way of taxi vouchers; during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028; in the amount of \$122,329 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$134,562. (Dong Liu will present the item)

Presenter Liu is requesting authorization to enter into a new grant agreement with LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the provision of transportation services by way of taxi vouchers; during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028; in the amount of \$122,329 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$134,562. Vice President Lum asked about the deficit and will it affect the funding of this grant? Mike Zaugg replied that hopefully everything will be taken care of before it reaches that point.

Commisisoner Pennington asked if this was a new service but it is a continuing service from 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- D. Requesting approval of CDA AAA-2425-06: Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordination of Older Americans Act Services to Residents of Planning Service Area 06. (Mike Zaugg and Genevieve Herreria will present this item)

Presenter Zaugg and Herreria are requesting approval of CDA AAA-2425-06: Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordination of Older Americans Act Services to Residents of Planning Service Area 06.

Commissioner Pennington thanked them for this streamlining and efficient item.

President Spears asked about the impact on the way this item operates and at this moment they are not worried and there is a variety of different methods to allocate funds.

And when we think about year-to-year state and federal money, is this federal money? Will we need to watch for cuts and yes, these are federal dollars and will need to be kept on eye on.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- E. Requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreement with Self-Help for the Elderly for the provision of Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) and for Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers ACT (MIPPA) for HICAP during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028; in the amount of \$2,145,367, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$2,359,903. (Erica Maybaum will present the item)

Presenter Maybaum is requesting authorization to enter into new grant agreement with Self-Help for the Elderly for the provision of Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy Program (HICAP) and for Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers ACT (MIPPA) for HICAP during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028; in the amount of \$2,145,367, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$2,359,903.

Commissioner Jung asked about how widespread will the implementation be spread throughout the city and presenter Maybaum answered that yes it will be throughout the city and she is happy to send out the exact locations to the commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- F. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with Felton Institute for the provision of Employment Navigation and Benefits Support; during the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, in the additional amount of \$542,327 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$1,022,948. (Zhiqing Li will present the item)

Presenter Li is requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with Felton Institute for the provision of Employment Navigation and Benefits Support; during the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, in the additional amount of \$542,327 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$1,022,948.

Commissioner Jung commented that it is a complex task and she is really pleased on the good outreach and thanked them

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- G. Requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with Open Door Legal for the provision of the "Westside Legal Services" program; during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, in the additional amount of \$887,729 plus a 10% contingency for a revised total amount not to exceed \$1,622,552. (Michael Zaugg will present the item)

Presenter Zaugg is requesting authorization to modify the existing grant agreement with Open Door Legal for the provision of the "Westside Legal Services" program; during the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026, in the additional amount of \$887,729 plus a 10% contingency for a revised total amount not to exceed \$1,622,552.

Commissioner Pennington asked about the legal service and asked if it was available for all members of the community or just older adults and adults with disabilities and this specific program does only serve older adults and adults with disabilities.

Also asked about how to gauge the success of this item and it will be gauged through outreach, collected info on race and ethnicity and neighborhood location through engagement.

Vice President Lum asked if this will litigate for damages and yes, that will be included. And asked if it's successful, will they keep their fees and revenue generating cases are not the norm.

President Spears asked if this will still be a pilot program and will stay that way and it is uncertain, but the pilot language has been dropped from the new language.

Commissioner Jung thanked for responding to the community and about language capacity and it was answered that there are numerous language accessible options.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- H. Requesting authorization to renew the grant with Southwest Community Corporation for the provision of Food Support for Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in an amount of \$167,375, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$437,960. (Tiffany Dang will present the item)

Presenter Dang is requesting authorization to renew the grant with Southwest Community Corporation for the provision of Food Support for Targeted Neighborhoods; for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 in an amount of \$167,375, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$437,960.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Director of the Southwest Community Center spoke on the food security and how people interact and are social through communal food services and they are happy to be able to provide to a number of ethnicities.

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- I. Requesting authorization to enter into a grant with Mental Health Association of San Francisco for the provision of support for collecting behaviors, for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2028, in an amount of \$1,462,791, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$1,609,070. (Dong Liu will present the item)

Presenter Liu is requesting authorization to enter into a grant with Mental Health Association of San Francisco for the provision of support for collecting behaviors, for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2028, in an amount of \$1,462,791, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$1,609,070.

Commissioner Jung asked about if there will be visitations and support groups throughout the city and online and in person at the main office location.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Peer counselor Elizabeth Barr spoke on this item and how people who are hoarders are scared of their behavior and how this item helps. And how this can lead to being unhoused. Urge the commission to approve this item as many services are offered and help individuals in their home.

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- J. Requesting authorization to enter into grants with multiple providers, for the provision of aging and disability resource centers (ADRCs) for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026, in an amount of \$3,220,061, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$3,542,067. (Sara Hofverberg will present the item)

Presenter Hofverberg is requesting authorization to enter into grants with multiple providers, for the provision of aging and disability resource centers (ADRCs) for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026, in an amount of \$3,220,061, plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$3,542,067.

Commissioner Jung commented that was pleased to see the expansion and an excellent way to go to maximize the services.

Asked if there were others districts not included and they will be back next month for those districts.

President Spears asked about the HUB and the ADRC's and was answered that the HUB is the City's ADRC and they are city connectors for the different services.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

A motion to approve from Commissioner Knutzen.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements – No announcements

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:28am by President Spears